

REMARKS

Claims 6 and 9-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 13-15 are canceled. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 6 and 9-12 are allowed.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,696,197 to Inagaki et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,663,261 to Hori et al. By this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 13-15 are canceled, rendering their rejection moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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